

The Signpost Weekly



May 1, 2016

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Miriam Acevedo, D.Min, M.Div.

Visit us at: <http://www.saintcs.org>

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

187 East Rd., Hampstead, NH 03841

Tel. (603) 329-4674

News or Info: signpostweekly@comcast.net

Calendar

Sunday, May 1

- Eucharist, 8 am and 10:15 am
- Bible Study, 9:15

Monday, May 2

- Monday morning Yoga, 9 am

Tuesday, May 3

- Women's Bible Study, 9:30 am
- Al-Anon, 5:30 p.m.
- **NO** Yoga with Miriam, 6:30 p.m.
- Rockingham Choral Society Concert, 7

Wednesday, May 4

- Group Spiritual Direction, 7 pm

Thursday, May 5

- Group Spiritual Direction, 11 am
- Eucharist and Bible Study, 7 pm

Saturday, May 7

- **NO Saturday Service**

Sunday, May 8

- Eucharist, 8 am and 10:15 a.m.
- Bible Study, 9:15
- Sunday school, 10 am

PLEASE NOTE

There is no Saturday service on May 7. Some members of the Bishop's Committee and I are attending an all-day diocesan event. *Miriam*



Walking the Walk With Miriam

I am looking for youth and MSG children to walk with me during the CROP Walk on May 15. We will meet at St. Christopher's registration table at the Atkinson Congregational Church. Registration is at 12:30 with the walk starting at 1. Pizza and other tasty things to eat will be available after the walk. *Miriam*



Miriam and the Bishop at the recent Southern Convocation meeting here at our church.

What were you doing 16 years ago today?

Ask Miriam.

On May 1, 2000, I arrived at St. Christopher's to begin my tenure as Vicar. Over the years, I have been blessed by the wonderful people of St. Christopher's, and a congregation embracing the idea of welcoming to the degree that it does, and that goes for the support you have given my daughter. Where did the time go? It has just flown by, literally -- I'm so lucky and privileged to have served and to be serving as your Vicar. Thank you all. *Miriam*

MORE TEN TALENTS NEWS!

Still not sure where to use your talent?

Do you have 120 minutes?

Too often we think of talent only in terms of music, art, athletic ability, etc. But having an engaging personality, putting people at ease, comforting children, connecting with students, these are all talents as well. Why not put these talents to use by offering your assistance to someone running a booth

Practice gratitude . Encounter the Lord each day. Be present to others. Resist overwork. Nurture friendships. Give more. Make a difference in your parish community. Consider living more simply. Get healthy. Don't give up. Turn to the Lord.

at the Festival. The bake table, the food booth, the kid's games, the yard sale all need people available to interact with our visitors all day long. Maybe 120 minutes assisting one of these activities is perfect for you! You can even work as a family or team! Look over the posters in the vestibule and sign up!

Yard Sale

- Thanks to those who have visited us at the storage facility with their yard sale treasures! The next date (the last one) to collect donations is May 7 from 11 - 2.



A Yard Sale planning meeting was held in the parking lot outside our storage unit last Sunday.

- We could use a few tarps to wrap the tent overnight before the festival on May 21. If you have one we can borrow, please let us know. Label it with your name and drop it off at the church any time between now and Friday, May 20. Thanks!
- We still need to borrow a few pop up tents and a picnic table or two as well.

Your "Talent" Project can be done at anytime

Don't forget: Your idea for using your God given talents to increase your \$10 seed money can be done any time. It does not have to coincide with the Spring Festival. If you have an idea that works best in the summer, just let us know that you will be waiting 'til then. Fill out the orange participation form and either drop it in the collection basket or mail it to the church. Or get in touch with one of us by phone or email. Contact Kathy Trombly or Dianne Copeland

From Crop Walk Coordinator, Barbara Hughes

Thank you to all those who have signed up early for the 23rd Annual Crop Hunger Walk. As you know 25% goes to local food pantries. the other 75% goes to Church World Service, where the money is used both in the U.S. and around the world for disaster Relief and Development funding. Several

reminders: Get the money up-front if you can. Checks should be made out to CWS/CROP. Do not have checks made out in your name if at all possible. Church World Service is considered a four star charitable organization and the web site is a secure site to donate through with a credit card. *The St. Christopher's Team link is [HERE](#).* Barbara

Communion Bread Making With Children

This event is on Saturday, May 14 at 2:30. The children will be taught how to make Communion bread by Brooke LaMonica and Michele Christian. I will talk with the children about the tradition of bread in scripture and in the church. The Communion bread the children make will used for the first time at the 4 pm service that day. Weather permitting the children will have a chance to play games outside. *Miriam*

Prayers of the People

We continue to give thanks and praise to God that **Joan Fettes** is now cancer free; pray for **Greta McElvanna** who is suffering with severe depression—she asks for your prayers; pray for **Dawn Hodges** a friend of Terri McDermott; Deb Pothier's granddaughter **Ellie Laura McCabe** who is due to have a second surgery soon; for Terry and Joan Stevens' daughter-in-law **Theresa**, who has Stage 4 breast cancer; **Quinton Collins** Robin Flynn's **father** diagnosed with cancer, for **Zach; Bill Steinhoff** going through chemo; for **Dale; Liz Naters-Gamarra and Carmen**, Miriam's daughter and mother; **Ann Donovan; Kate; Joan and Ron Ruggiero, and Josephine Herbert; Brayden; Matty; Ian; Joan Fettes**; for Christine's friend **Christine**; for **Cheryl**; for **Ryan**; for **Jacqueline**; for Natalie's brother **Lorin** and for **George Gallo, Jr.**; for Mark and Ingrid's son **Eric** who with God's grace is in safe hands.

Serving in the Military: Please pray for Del's cousins, **Daniel, Matthew and Sandra**, for **Paul**.

Parish cycle of prayer: Chris, Ruth-Ann, Abigail, Eva, and Madeline Cooper; Rob, Christine, Cameron, and Hannah Collins; Bob and Tone Crossman; Dave, Kelly, Amy, Chris, Hannah, and Mary Cosio.

Attendance

Tuesday, 4/19, WBS, 4

Saturday, 4/23, 8

Sunday, 4/24, 8:00am, 29; 10:15am, 43

THE
Episcopal
CHURCH



MAY 1, 2016 – SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (C)

THE FEAST OF CATHERINE OF SIENA

On April 29, The Episcopal Church celebrated the Feast of Catherine of Siena, a fourteenth-century mystic and spiritual writer.

Born in 1347, Caterina Benincasa was the youngest of 25 children born to a wealthy cloth dyer of Siena. According to *Holy Women, Holy Men* (Church Publishing, 2010), at six years old, she had a vision that would determine her life's work. While walking along a road to her home, she looked upward and "beheld our Lord seated in glory with St. Peter, St. Paul, and St. John." In this vision, she would later report, Jesus blessed her.

After this vision, Catherine committed herself to a life of prayer, meditation, writing, and worship. Her family, desiring her to behave like her contemporaries, attempted to have her married to her sister's widower. Refusing, she cut off her hair (according to *Holy Women, Holy Men*, this was the chief symbol of her beauty) and instead joined the Third Order of the Dominicans. Here, she would be afforded the opportunity to serve the poor and convert sinners, without living in a monastery (*An Episcopal Dictionary of the Church: A User Friendly Reference for Episcopalians*, 2000).

Throughout her career, Catherine was closely associated with serving those on the fringes of society: those afflicted with the Black Plague, prisoners condemned to death, and the desperately poor of Siena and Rome. At the same time, and possibly because of this work, she was well-regarded by the elite of her time, arbitrating feuds and attempting to end the church schism caused by the dueling popes at Rome and Avignon.

A prolific writer, Catherine's greatest work is undoubtedly *The Dialogue of Divine Providence*, based on her vision of a soul rising up to meet God. Reflecting on the mystery of the Trinity, she wrote, "You, eternal Trinity, are a deep sea. The more I enter you, the more I discover, and the more I discover, the more I seek you" (*Dialogue* 167). She would go on to say to her readers, "You are rewarded not according to your work or your time, but according to the measure of your love" (*Dialogue* 165). One of her best-known quotations, as translated by the Rt. Rev. Richard Chartres, Bishop of London, is remembered as "Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire!"

Catherine of Siena died in Rome on April 29, 1380, at the age of 33. Pope Pius II canonized her in 1461.

Collect for Catherine of Siena

"Everlasting God, you so kindled the flame of holy love in the heart of blessed Catherine of Siena, as she meditated on the passion of your Son our Savior, that she devoted her life to the poor and the sick, and to the peace and unity of the Church: Grant that we also may share in the mystery of Christ's death, and rejoice in the revelation of his glory; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen" ("Holy Women, Holy Men," p. 351).



"St. Catherine of Siena" circa 1500-1699, oil on copper, courtesy of the Brooklyn Museum, New York City